1	2	3	4
15	Solapur	Solapur	645
16	Ratnagiri	(i) Ratnagiri (ii) Sindhudurg	540
17	Nagpur	Nagpur	436
18	Latur	(i) Latur (ii) Osmanabad (iii) Beed	747
19	Pune		2461
20	MTNL, Bombay . . .		44048

Countrywide data communication network

86. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the delay in completing Vikram network which was meant for providing countrywide data communication;

(b) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra Electronics Corporation had sought permission from the Central Government for creating such a network between Aurangabad, Pune, Kolhapur, Nagpur and Bombay; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) As the Packet Switched Public Data Network 'Vikram' involves a new technology, and the network would be the first of its kind to be set up in the country.

(b) Keltron sought permission to set up a telecom network including a data network for MIDE, industrial sites in Maharashtra.

(c) The permission has not been granted as the request was for setting up a public telecommunication network, the provision and operation of which is undertaken by the Department of Telecommunications.

Proposal for a gas pipeline from South Basin to Marathwada and Vidarbha areas

87. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposals from the Government of Maharashtra for creating a gas pipeline from the gas fields of South Basin to the backward areas of Marathwada and Vidarbha; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the HBJ Pipeline be taken along the Central railway route or a branch line be constructed to supply gas to fertilizer plants in Vidarbha and other areas in Maharashtra State.

This was considered by Government and not found feasible.